

Amendments to the claims:

1. (currently amended) An electrical machine, in particular a direct current motor for vehicles, comprising: having a multi-pole stator having which has an annular pole housing (1) and a plurality of magnets (2) that are located on an the inside face of the pole housing (1)[[.]]; and

having a magnet splinter guard (3), wherein said magnet splinter guard (3) which shields the magnets (2) inward in the radial direction toward a the rotor, characterized in that wherein the magnet splinter guard (3) is formed from a rectangular blank, has an overlapping region (4), extending in the circumferential direction over an the axial length of the magnet splinter guard (3), and on each end of the ends (6, 7) of the magnet splinter guard (3) located in the axial direction, a respective centering ring (8) is located, for centering the magnet splinter guard (3), wherein the magnets (2) have a pole lift (1), and the overlapping region (4) of the magnet splinter guard (3) is located on the pole lift (10).

2. (currently amended) The electrical machine according to claim 1, characterized in that wherein the magnet splinter guard (3), in the installed state, automatically exerts a radially outward-oriented prestressing force on the magnets (2).

3. (currently amended) The electrical machine according to claim 1, characterized in that wherein the centering rings (8) each have a tapering region (19).

4. (currently amended) The electrical machine according to claim 1, characterized in that wherein the centering rings (8) enclose the magnets (2) between the pole housing (1) and the magnet splinter guard (3).

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) The electrical machine according to claim 1, characterized by further comprising a clamping strip (5), wherein the clamping strip (5) which is located on the outer circumference of the magnet splinter guard (3) and in the installed state is located between two magnets (2).

7. (currently amended) The electrical machine according to claim 1, characterized in that wherein the axial ends (6, 7) of the magnet splinter guard (3) are slightly bent radially outward.

8. (currently amended) The electrical machine according to claim 1, characterized in that wherein the magnet splinter guard (3) at the overlapping region (4) has a graduated region (11), so that the magnet splinter guard (3) in the installed state has a constant inside diameter.

9. (currently amended) The electrical machine according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the magnet splinter guard (3) is joined to the overlapping region (4) in captive fashion.

10. (currently amended) The electrical machine according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the tapering region (9) of the centering rings (8) is embodied as a cone or as an outward-bulging region, or as an inward-bulging region, or as a stepped tapering region.